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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**

July 10, 2018

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PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer  
United States Trade Representative  
600 17<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

Thank you for your timely responses to my office regarding various trade negotiations that are ongoing around the world.

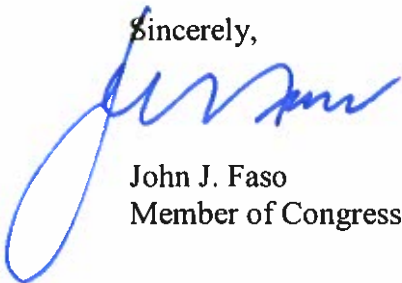
As you are aware, China has banned certain imported solid waste materials from the United States while also imposing strict standards for the contamination level of other recyclables. This shift in policy has dramatically altered the international waste reclamation process due to the major role China has played in this global operation since the 1980s. While there are other markets for U.S. recyclables, nearly 40 percent of U.S. scrap exports go to China, and there is no way for other countries to simply absorb this large influx of materials.

I have heard from various recycling officials across my district and they have repeatedly expressed concern with the impact that this shift in Chinese policy will have on their local operations. Municipal and private recyclers are having difficulty in moving these materials to processing facilities and are having to pay haulers to get these materials into the waste stream.

I encourage the Administration to address this issue in ongoing trade conversations with the Chinese government because it is imperative that the United States remains a leader in the reutilization of waste materials while also proving municipalities with an efficient means of removing recyclable goods.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or require additional information from various local recycling agencies.

Sincerely,



John J. Faso  
Member of Congress

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